

PEOPLE - MERRY

Duxbury Clipper

Wednesday, March 14, 2001

In Memoriam – Rev. Canon Robert Merry

This week the town mourns the loss of a beloved member of the community whose contributions to the town and the *Duxbury Clipper* were numerous.

For many years the Rev. Canon Robert Merry wrote informative feature articles in these pages about all things Duxbury. His recollections of bygone days connected readers in a unique way with their town. Special 'slice of life' glimpses of growing up on a farm in Duxbury were delivered with his own brand of wit and wisdom.

His articles touched on many noteworthy subjects and provided an historical perspective from one of the town's most respected citizens.

Teacher, clergyman, historian, conservationist, and family man, he was well versed on many subjects. A diligent researcher who spent many long hours at the library and historical places, his stories ran the gamut. Though his travels took him to far away places, his writing was often

anchored in fascination with the simple pleasures of his hometown. He wrote of his boyhood chores, of school days, churches, farm and family — stories passed down through generations.

He wrote about the Old Colony Railroad, Duxbury's rum-running days, shellfishing, town meeting, police and fire departments, Duxbury families, historical landmarks, stores and tradesmen, July 4th celebrations, town landings, and the beach.

He was a colorful character whose observations of life were as classic on the floor of town meeting as from the pulpit.

From Earth Day observances to invocations at events too numerous to mention, to providing school children with a special view of town history, Rev. Merry will be remembered fondly as a man of integrity who cherished his roots and proudly shared his memories of a town he loved.